

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

These remarks are made in response to the Office Action of July 23, 2008 (Office Action). As this response is timely filed within the 3-month shortened statutory period, no fee is believed due. However, the Examiner is expressly authorized to charge any deficiencies to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §§ 102 & 103

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 11-12, 14-17, and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 7,020,696 to Perry, et al. (hereinafter Perry). Claims 10 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perry in view of Microsoft Computer Dictionary. Claims 8-9 and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Perry with reference to the Background section of the present invention.

Although Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejections, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 5. Applicants have cancelled Claims 2-3 and 11-26. However, Applicants are not conceding that the remaining claims as originally formulated or the cancelled claims fail to present patentable subject matter. The amendments and cancellations are solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution. Accordingly, neither the amendments nor cancellations should be interpreted as the surrender of any subject matter, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to present the original version of any of the amended claims in any future divisional or continuation applications from the present application.

As discussed herein, the claim amendments are fully supported throughout the Specification. No new matter has been introduced by the claim amendments.

Aspects of Applicants' Invention

It may be helpful to reiterate certain aspects of Applicants' invention prior to addressing the cited references. One embodiment of the invention, as typified by amended Claim 1, is a method for presenting system services in customized views.

The method can include categorizing the system services by functional groups; establishing a plurality of system service profiles, each system service profile representing a customized subset of the system services; detecting a request for the presentation of system services from a user; ascertaining an identity of the user and at least one computing device associated with the request; determining a privilege group associated with the user; determining at least one of said system service profiles corresponding to the user, the privilege group, and/or the at least one computing device; determining at least one system service to be displayed in accordance with the at least one determined system service profile; and displaying the determined at least one system service within a graphical user interface in an order based on the categorization. See, e.g., Specification, paragraphs [0028] to [0029]; see also Fig. 2.

The Claims Define Over The Prior Art

The administrative tools for system services typically display all system services in an alphabetical fashion. The display can include a number of system services that are disabled or set to a manual state. Since different servers within a business network can have different purposes, only a subset of system services may be important. Nevertheless, conventional system service GUIs present all available system services, including a large quantity of relatively unimportant services. Further, large computer networks can be managed by a number of system administrators, each in charge of a different portion of the network. Each network administrator typically is concerned with different views of the system services that can affect portions of the network with which that administrator is responsible. At present, because conventional tools display all services regardless of whether the administrator has rights to the service, system administrators must scroll through a large number of services to locate a small set of services to which the administrator has rights and/or authority. The presentation of all available system services within conventional management tools can therefore be inefficient and can be cumbersome to administrators. Further, the presentation of

extraneous system services can represent a potential system security weakness; one permitting low-level administrators to seize control of system services outside of intended privilege boundaries. See Specification, paragraphs [0003] and [0004].

In order to solve the above problems, the present invention provides a method for customizing the display of system services within an administrative interface. More specifically, a number of system service profiles can be established for various users, groups, and servers. Each of the system service profiles can specify the most relevant system services for the associated user, group, and/or server. The system service profiles, which specify a set of applicable system services, can be accessed whenever a system service interface is initiated. The specified subset of system services, as opposed to a complete set of system services, can be displayed within the system service interface. See Specification, paragraph [0005].

Perry provides a method and apparatus for implementing distributed user management information in telecommunications networks. At least a portion of a user's management information is stored in a team session file that is accessible by a network management system (NMS) client. For example, the team session file may be saved in memory that is local to the NMS client or, if a user logs in through a remote system using a web browser, the team session file may be saved as a cookie in memory local to the remote system. The NMS client may then utilize the user management information in the team session file while the user is logged into the NMS client. In one embodiment, the user management information stored within the team session file includes NMS server connection information. Thus, when a user logs into an NMS client, the NMS client uses the NMS server connection information to connect to an NMS server. The user management information stored within the team session file may be retrieved from user profile information corresponding to the user and stored in a central data repository, and since the user profile data is stored in a central repository, changes may be easily made to the user profile data and consequently pushed out to the team session files accessible by

one or more NMS clients. Consequently, a user's management data may be widely distributed for access by NMS clients located anywhere in the network. See Abstract.

As can be seen from the above paragraph, Perry concerns managing a telecommunications network using a user's management information stored in a team session file, which includes the user identification and current NMS server connection information for connecting the NMS client to an NMS server using the current NMS server connection information. Clearly, in Perry the team session file does not include information as to what system services are to be presented for a particular user, group, or server as in the present invention. Therefore, the subject matter of Perry has nothing to do with the subject matter of the present invention.

Perry describes in col. 59, lines 15-28 that user access level in a user profile determines how NMS server behaves and affects what the user can do and can view in the NMS server. However, this has nothing to do with categorizing the system services by functional group in the sense of the present invention. It is noted that in the present invention the categorization of the system services does not affect what a user can view, but only how the system services are displayed within the graphical user interface (see, e.g., Figs. 3 and 4 of the instant application).

Perry describes in col. 59, lines 15-28:

The NMS server sends data from the user profile LMO to the NMS client to allow the NMS client to present the user with a graphical user interface such as GUI 895 shown in FIG. 4a. If the user selects one of the network devices listed in navigation tree 898, the NMS server retrieves the group level access (e.g., provisioner) and the password (e.g., team2) corresponding to that group level access from the user profile LMO and then connects to the selected network device. The NMS server then retrieves the network device's physical data as described below under the heading "NMS Server Scalability."

It is not clear how this paragraph has anything to do with displaying the determined at least one system service within a graphical user interface in an order based

on the categorization, as recited in Claim 1 of the instant application. Fig. 4a of Perry shows a navigation tree 898, but not system services in an order based on the categorization of the system services (compare with Fig. 2 of the instant application).

Accordingly, Perry fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of Claim 1, as amended. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 defines over the prior art. Furthermore, as each of the remaining claims depends from Claim 1 while reciting additional features, Applicants further respectfully submit that the remaining claims likewise define over the prior art.

Applicants thus respectfully request that the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 & 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that this application is now in full condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. Applicant requests that the Examiner call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any matter within this Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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